

DITCH CREEK GUARD STATION, BARN/STORAGE SHED
(Building No. 2404)
West Side of Forest Development Rd. 21
Heppner Ranger District
Umatilla National Forest
Heppner Vicinity
Morrow County
Oregon

HABS No. OR-151-B

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PHOTOGRAPHS.

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Western Region
Department of the Interior
San Francisco, California 94102

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

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Location: Umatilla National Forest, Heppner Ranger District, Heppner, vicinity, Morrow County, Oregon. West side of Forest Development Road 21 .5 miles north of intersection of FDR 21 and FDR 2104.

U.S.C.S. Arbuckle Mountain, Oregon Quadrangle (7.5 min.)
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:
Zone 11 Northing 4,998,740 m. Easting 315,440 m.

Present Owner: Umatilla National Forest
U.S. Department of Agriculture
2517 SW. Hailey Ave.
Pendleton, Oregon 97801

Present Occupant: Vacant.

Present Use: None.

Statement of Significance:

The Ditch Creek Guard Station Barn/Storage Shed is one of 54 buildings on the Umatilla National Forest which have been determined eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places associated with a period of dynamic change in Forest Service administrative policy: they physically portray the transition from custodial supervision of the National Forests to extensive management and resource development. The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) provided the work force to build the necessary new facilities. Thus, the buildings are also directly associated with the Federal Government's response to the Great Depression. They are tangible evidence of the positive impact of President Roosevelt's first emergency relief program.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Date of Erection: All of the buildings at the Ditch Greek Guard Station were constructed by the GGG in 1934.
2. Architect/Builder: The architect is unknown.
3. Original Owner: The building was built for the U.S.D.A. Umatilla National Forest.
4. Builder, contractor, suppliers: The building was constructed by members of the Civilian Conservation Corps.
5. Original Plans and Construction: There are no plans available for the building.
6. Alterations and Additions: The building has not been altered since it was constructed.

B. Historical Context

The Ditch Greek Guard Station Barn/Storage Shed is one of 54 buildings on the Umatilla National Forest which have been determined eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places associated with a period of dynamic change in Forest Service administrative policy: they physically portray the transition from custodial supervision of the National Forests to extensive management and resource development. The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) provided the work force to build the necessary new facilities. Thus, the buildings are also directly associated with the Federal Government's response to the Great Depression. They are tangible evidence of the positive impact of President Roosevelt's first emergency relief program.

Depression-era administrative buildings symbolize the Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest. The architecture, through repeated use of a group of basic forms and designs, represents Forest Service purposes and ideals and establishes Forest Service identity. Sturdy architectural designs provide a feeling of enduring substance, and evoke the character of the old growth environment. The lavish use of wood communicates the wealth of our timber-rich region. Architects used natural materials, textures, and shapes to blend the buildings with their surroundings. Thus it is the Pacific Northwest Region (Region-6) rustic style of architecture that visually ties the buildings to a time and place.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION.

A. General Statement

The Ditch Creek Guard Station Barn/Storage Shed is a one story utilitarian building constructed of wood on a concrete foundation. The building is rectangular with a gabled roof. There are 2 two over two light single sash windows at each small end of the building with a single sash single pane window adjacent to the North facing entry door.

1. Architectural character: The building is an example of Region 6 Depression-era Rustic Style architecture constructed by the CCC.

2. Condition of fabric: The exterior of the building has suffered some minor natural deterioration.

B. Description of Exterior

1. Overall Dimensions: 5.59 meters x 4.96 meters x 4.58 meters.

2. Foundations: The foundation is constructed of poured concrete and is still in good condition.

3. Walls: Walls are constructed of wood frame with wooden shiplap surface. They are painted with red paint.

4. Structural systems, framing: 2 x 4 rough cut on 61 cm centers.

5. Porches, stoops, balconies, bulkheads: None.

6. Chimneys: None.

7. Openings:

a. Doorways and doors: North facing single door, horizontal plain.

b. Windows and shutters: 2 two over two light single sash windows and one single sash single pane window.

8. Roof:

a. Shape, covering: Gable, cedar shake shingles.

b. Cornice, eaves: None, eaves projecting with rafters exposed.

c. Dormers, cupolas, towers: None.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: Rectangular.
2. Stairways: None.
3. Flooring: Milled rough cut lumber 2 x 12.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Red oilbased paint.
5. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: (see item 7a)
 - b. Windows: (see item 7b)
6. Decorative features and trim: None.
7. Hardware: None.
8. Mechanical equipment: None.
9. Original furnishings: None.

D. Site

1. General setting and orientation: Ditch Creek barn/storage shed is a north facing structure located on a gently sloping terrace above the confluence to Ditch and Martin Creek which is surrounded by lodgepole pine.
2. Historic landscape design: The Ditch Creek barn/storage shed's location appears by design to be inconspicuous and hidden from view from Ditch Creek Guard Station which was probably intended by the Forest Service.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Throop, Elizabeth Gail

1979 Utterly Visionary and Chimerical: A Federal Response to the Depression. An Examination of Civilian Conservation Corps Construction on National Forest System Lands in the Pacific Northwest. M.A. Thesis, Portland State University, Portland, Oregon.

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PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

The Umatilla National Forest has declared this building excess and plans to dispose of it. This form constitutes the mitigative recording of the building required by a Programmatic Memorandum of Agreement between the U.S.D.A. Forest Service, Region 6, the State Historic Preservation Officers of the States of Washington and Oregon, and the Advisory Council of Historic Places.

Prepared by: William S. White
Title: Archeologist
Affiliation: Umatilla National Forest
Date: March 6, 1990

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